33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

19 NOVEMBER 2023

PARISH VISION

We are called to reveal the Light of Christ to the world





Monday Mass: 7am Tuesday Mass: 7am Wednesday Mass: 7am

Confessions: 11:30am

Mass: 12.10pm

Thursday Mass: 7am Friday Mass: 7am

> Adoration: 11:30am Confessions: 11:30am

Mass: 12.10pm

Saturday Confessions: 11am—12pm Sunday Mass: 7am, 10.30am & 5pm

St Brigid's, Gwynneville

Thursday Mass: 9.30am Saturday Vigil Mass: 5.30pm Mass: 9am Sunday

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow

Mass: 9.30am Tuesday

Thursday Mass: 9.30am (Italian)

Mass: 8.30am Sunday

Mass: 10am (Italian)

Mass: 4.30pm (Vietnamese)

Mater Dolorosa, Balgownie Sunday Mass: 10am



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE ...

Josip Halic, Margaret Gray, Paul Gray, Margaret Toms.

PLEASE PRAY FOR **OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...**

Bishop Peter Ingham, Fr David Catterall, Terry Barratt, Jan Coulson, Nelson Salinas, Joan O'Dowd, Alan Curtis, Matthew Johnson, Suzy May Gellel, Pat Carr, John Parkinson, Joseph Scalia, Bill Sharpe, Therese & Noel Rouse, Mario Saverimuttu, Ron Cooper.

PARISH CENTRE

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am —2.00pm (Closed for Lunch 12pm—12.30pm) 36 Harbour St, Wollongong NSW 2500

CONTACT US

Phone: 02 4211 0500 wollongong@dow.org.au lumenchristi.org.au

PARISH STAFF

FOR ALL THINGS GIVE THANKS +

Most Reverend Brian G Mascord, Diocesan Bishop & Parish Priest Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon, Vicar General & Administrator Reverend James Arblaster, Assistant Priest & UoW Chaplain Kevin Galea, General Manager Leanne Burlin. Parish Secretary Patricia Di Leva. Administration Assistant

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Wollongong Hospital: 0475 815 506

PASTORAL & FINANCE COUNCILS

Lisa de Paiva, Chair of the Pastoral Council Gabi Tobin, Chair of the Finance Council

PARISH SCHOOLS

Kathy Uroda, Principal, St Brigid's Gwynneville Toni Sillis, Principal, Good Samaritan Fairy Meadow

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We show our respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Dharawal Country, Elders past, present, and emerging, and extend that respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

In our parish & around the diocese

PARISH CALENDAR: NOV—DEC 2023

Tue, 21 Nov: Australian Brandenburg Concert, SFX 7pm

Sun, 26 Nov: Feast of Christ the King

Wed, 29 Nov: Mass of Anointing, SFX 12.10pm

Sat, 2 Dec: Hark concert, SFX 2pm

Sun, 3 Dec: First Sunday of Advent - Year B

Sun, 3 Dec: Blessing of St Francis Xavier Statue, SFX 10.30am

Sun, 3 Dec: St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2023

Sun, 3 Dec: Hospitality weekend Fri, 8 Dec: Immaculate Conception

Sun, 10 Dec: Second Sunday of Advent - Year B Sun, 10 Dec: Reconciliation after MDB 10am Mass Tue, 12 Dec: Reconciliation after SJV 9.30am Mass

Tue, 12 Dec: Finance Council Meeting

Wed, 13 Dec: Diocesan Pastoral Works Mass, SFX 12.10pm

Wed, 13 Dec: Pastoral Council Meeting

Thu, 14 Dec: Reconciliation after SBG 9.30am Mass **Fri, 15 Dec:** Second Rite of Reconciliation, SFX 11am **Fri, 15 Dec:** First Rite of Reconciliation, SFX 6pm

SACRAMENTS

- Baptisms: By appointment only. Baptism preparation session must be completed. Contact the parish office or book online lumenchristi.org.au/baptism)
- Marriages: A preliminary appointment needs to be made at least 6 months prior to Wedding Date (No Sunday weddings in our parish)
- For Pastoral and Sacramental needs, please contact the parish office during office hours

HELPFUL LINKS

- Mass for you at Home: youtube.com/massforyouathome
- Mass/Prayer Intentions: lumenchristi.org.au/intentions
- Light a Votive Candle: lumenchristi.org.au/votive
- Census Form: lumenchristi.org.au/census
- Online Donations: lumenchristi.org.au/donate
- Join Planned Giving: lumenchristi.org.au/support
- Columbarium: lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium
- Sacramental Programme: lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental
- Privacy Policy: privacy.lumenchristi.org.au
- St Brigid's School: sbgdow.catholic.edu.au
- Good Samaritan School: gsfmdow.catholic.edu.au

PARISH EFT BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

CHURCH ACCOUNT

(Donations & Planned Giving) **BSB:** 066 711 **Account:** 008056 **Account Name:** Lumen Christi Parish

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT

(For the Clergy)

BSB: 066 711 Account: 002286

Account Name: Lumen Christi Parish Presbytery

ADVENT RECONCILIATION 2023

During Advent we prepare to celebrate Christ's coming at Christmas, in our hearts and homes, and in the fulfilment of all things. Why does God send Christ to us? The great secret which we are called to reveal to the world is that in Christ, God is reconciling us to God (Colossians 1.20). God loves us not as enemies but as friends and gives us the freedom of forgiveness from our sins (1.23, 25-26).

That is why Advent is a wonderful time to celebrate the reconciliation of ourselves with God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is a heartfelt speaking of our sins to experience and bear witness to Christ's overflowing mercy.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMES AT LUMEN CHRISTI

Mater Dolorosa Church

Sunday 10th December after the 10am Mass

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral

Tuesday 12th December after the 9.30am Mass

St Brigid's Church

Thursday 14th December after the 9.30am Mass

St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Friday 15th December 11am –12pm (2nd Rite)

Friday 15th December 6pm – 7pm Every Saturday 11am – 12pm

BLESSING OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER STATUE



On Sunday 3rd December, Bishop Brian will bless the Garden statue of our Cathedral patron St Francis Xavier after the 10.30am Mass. All parishioners and visitors are very welcome to attend the blessing and then partake of refreshments on the Cathedral House Veranda.

MASS OF ANOINTING | 29 NOV | 12.10PM | SFX

On 29th November the 12.10pm Cathedral Mass will be offered for those who are suffering the effects of serious illness or the infirmity of old age. Anyone in such need is very welcome to receive the Anointing of the Sick.

The Anointing of the Sick is attested by Saint James: "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call in the presbyters of the Church and let them pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14-15).

All parishioners are very welcome to attend the Mass of Anointing. It is a wonderful opportunity for the sick and elderly to receive the Anointing, but it is also a great opportunity for everyone to show support for those who are ill and suffering.

In our parish & around the diocese

THE SONG CO.

Hark!

HARK— "THE CONCERT"

Start the Advent season with well-loved carols and heart-melting harmonies. A Christmas concert for the whole family to enjoy together at St Francis Xavier Cathedral on **2pm on Saturday 2nd December 2023**. The Song Company Christmas Carol program **Hark!** are selling tickets online. Visit www.the.song.company/hark We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating the presence of Christ with joyful song!

WE ARE ALL PILGRIMS

Dear Parishioners,

Countless pilgrims have visited Knock in County Mayo where parishioners witnessed a vision on the 21st August 1879. Silently Our Lady appeared with Joseph, John the Evangelist, and, as you can see in the photo of the mosaic inside the Basilica, the Lamb appeared on an altar with the Cross, surrounded by angels. This gives the Knock Shrine a



very Eucharistic tone, as Mary's deep and gentle faith imbues the Shrine with trust in God's goodness and mercy.

Please know that on 13 November 2023 I arranged for Mass to be offered at the Shrine for you all and all who are dear to you, all our mothers, fathers, daughters, sons, the young, the old, the newly married, the happy and the desperate, the healthy and the sick. The Shrine prayer may be of help to you:

'Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your Divine Son, remembering His promise "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you will find." Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to Heaven.'

That is why we care for each other on our pilgrim road to Life. Fr Bernard

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We will have the Christmas Appeal on the First Sunday of Advent (2nd/3rd December). Envelopes will be at the doors of the church with a leaving collection at the end of Mass. Thank you very much for your support!

God's plan for human happiness is mostly frustrated by a good person burying his or her personality traits, what one might call one's talents, which is really to bury oneself and to become invisible. In the old language of my schoolboy catechism, we should be concerned not just with sins of commission, but with sins of omission – failure of courage, failure to take risks, failure to put everything on the line with the personality and the moment in time given to you and to me

As Shakespeare says in Julius Caesar:

'There is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in stillness and in miseries.'

The Divine Tide is flowing through human history. We should trust ourselves to that tide which can carry us to the shores of Heaven. Failure to take risks leads to Hellish stillness and miseries. We could pause for a moment to pray that we might use our talents so as to hear: 'Well done, good and faithful servant ... come and join in your Master's happiness.'

MASS FOR THOSE WHO REST IN CHRIST

Please print the names of your deceased loved ones on an envelope. Names will be published in the Book of the Resting. Envelopes are at the church doors and parish office, or visit our website at: lumenchristi.org.au/NovemberMass

N.B. The Book of the Resting will close after next weekend.



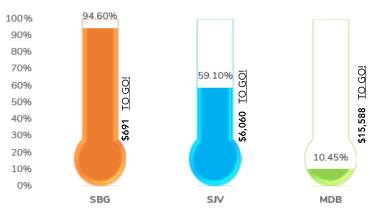
Please donate for new padding on the kneelers at St John Vianney's Co-Cathedral, St Brigid's and Mater Dolorosa by:

- completing a pledge form online at: www.lumenchristi.org.au/kneelers
- ♦ Direct Deposit

BSB: 066 711 Account #: 008056 Ref: Your Name-SOK Cheques Payable to: Lumen Christi Parish

 Or by collecting an envelope from the church door (mark it "Kneelers Donation") and place it inside the collection bag, collection boxes, or hand it in at the parish office.

DONATIONS AS 13 NOVEMBER 2023



THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Jeremiah 29:11,12,14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading

Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands.

She sets her hands to the distaff,

her fingers grasp the spindle.

She holds out her hand to the poor,

she opens her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;

the woman who is wise is the one to praise.

Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

- 1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
- 2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R.)
- Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not

go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel Acclamation

John 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 72:28

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate **Befriending Time**

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